

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was *not* written for publication and is *not* binding precedent of the Board.

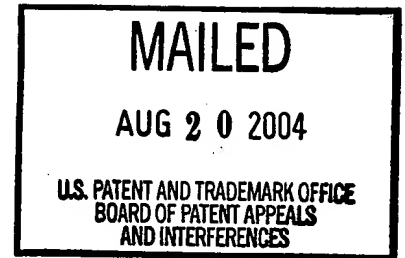
Paper No. 26

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte ROGER MINKOW et al.

Appeal No. 2004-1807
Application 09/878,719



ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER

A Reply Brief (Paper No. 21 ½) was filed on July 14, 2003, in response to an Examiner's Answer entered on May 6, 2003 (Paper No. 21), along with a Request for Oral Hearing (Paper No. 22).

In accordance with the revision effective December 1, 1997, Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.193 states:

(b)(1) The primary examiner must acknowledge receipt and entry of the reply brief or withdraw the final rejection and reopen prosecution to respond to the reply brief.

In view of this revision, the examiner must acknowledge receipt and entry of the Reply Brief. Otherwise, if the examiner chooses to respond to the arguments presented in

**Appeal No. 04-1807
Application 09/878,719**

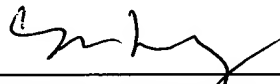
the Reply Brief, the examiner needs to reopen prosecution in order to respond to the Reply Brief (Paper No. 21 ½).

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application be remanded to the examiner for consideration of the Reply Brief filed on July 14, 2003, and for such further action as may be appropriate. A corrected Docketing Notice will be sent out once the examiner has responded to the Remand and the application is returned to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

**BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**



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